

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT:

Watkins

GROUP:

1762

SERIAL NO:

09/464,997

EXAMINER:

K. Bareford

FILED:

December 16, 1999

FOR:

METHOD FOR APPLYING SYNTACTIC

FOAM THERMAL INSULATION

TO A LENGTH OF PIPE [as amended]

RECEIVED HAS

GROUP 1700

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

AMENDMENT

This amendment is in response to the Official Action dated September 11, 2002. A petition for an extension of time is enclosed herewith extending the response period to February 11, 2003.

Please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend claims 1 and 5 as follows:

1.(Twice Amended) A method of applying syntactic foam insulation to a length of steel pipe,

said method comprising the steps of:

- 3 co-extruding an inner syntactic foam insulator and an outer thermoplastic protective
- 4 cover around the length of steel pipe; and
- solidifying said thermoplastic protective cover to retain said syntactic foam insulator in
- 6 a desired shape about the length of steel pipe.